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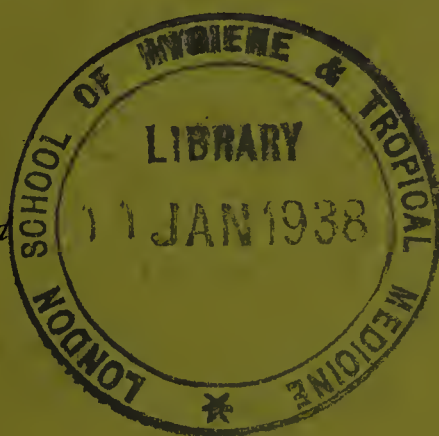
No. 1829

Annual Report on the Social and Economic
Progress of the People of

SIERRA LEONE, 1936

*For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see Nos. 1744 and 1757
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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The territory comprising the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone is about the size of Ireland (27,925 square miles) and lies between the 6° 55' and 10° 00' parallels of north latitude and the 10° 16' and 13° 18' meridians of west longitude. The portions administered strictly as Colony are the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Tasso Island, the Banana Islands, York Island, and the township of Bonthe on Sherbro Island. The total area amounts to some 256 square miles.

Freetown, the capital, is situated at the northern extremity of the Peninsula on a fine natural harbour which affords good anchorages close to the shore for the largest ships. The greater portion of the Peninsula is mountainous and well wooded, the conical peaks, of which the highest is Picket Hill (2,912 feet), being visible for great distances at certain seasons of the year.

The Protectorate (27,669 square miles) is well watered by a network of rivers and streams, the general direction of flow being from north-east to south-west. Most of the rivers have wide estuaries; and, although none of them is navigable for ocean-going steamers, several of them provide useful waterways for lesser craft, particularly during the wet season.

If the mountainous peninsula be excepted, the Colony and Protectorate as a whole may be described generally as being flat and low-lying in the south and west and broken and elevated in the north and east, where altitudes of over 6,000 feet have been recorded in the Loma and Tingi mountains. The nature of the vegetation varies considerably. South of the $8^{\circ} 30'$ parallel of north latitude dense bush country (originally tropical forest) is as a rule encountered; but this gives place as one travels northwards to more open or "orchard bush" country.

Climate.

The seasons may be divided into wet and dry, the former commencing in May and lasting until October. The rains are as a rule ushered in during the latter part of March and April by a series of tornadoes. Similar phenomena, though as a rule of a less violent nature, are experienced towards the end of the wet season. The dry north-easterly "Harmattan" wind usually blows at intervals during the December—February period, visibility being thereby greatly restricted owing to the fine dust which it is believed the Harmattan carries down with it from the Sahara. During this period hot days and cool nights are the rule.

The shade temperature at Freetown varies during the year from about 65° to 95° Fahrenheit. The average minimum and maximum may be placed at 74° and 87° respectively.

The average annual rainfall at Freetown over a forty-year period amounted to 152 inches. This figure is based on observations made at Tower Hill at a point some 200 feet above sea-level. July and August are as a rule the wettest months.

History.

Sierra Leone, which has been known to voyagers and historians for many centuries, first became a British settlement in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The settlement was established, at the instance of a Society for the Abolition of Slavery from which sprang the Sierra Leone Company, in order to make provision for a large number of slaves who had found their way to England after the American War of 1782, and also for such slaves as might be recaptured by British ships operating against the slavers. A strip of land was acquired on the north of the Sierra Leone Peninsula, and on this site the

first colonists were landed in May, 1787. These were augmented in 1792 by a large party of Africans (freed slaves who had fought for the English in the American War of Independence) from Nova Scotia. Later, in 1800, about 550 Maroons—originally slaves who fled from their masters in Jamaica and on surrender were conveyed to Nova Scotia—were brought to Sierra Leone, and allotted lands. Similar treatment was subsequently accorded to the “Liberated Africans” who were captured slaves brought in by His Majesty’s ships.

For the first few years of its existence the Colony suffered many hardships and privations through famine and disease, and was attacked three times from land by the Temnes and once from the sea by a French squadron.

On 1st January, 1808, the settlement became a Crown Colony.

Chiefly owing to slave-dealing by native chiefs and European adventurers in the neighbourhood of Freetown, the English settlement soon found it necessary to intervene in the affairs of the hinterland, and from time to time various treaties were made with the surrounding chiefs by which certain lands were ceded to the Crown. By this means the Crown Colony was gradually extended. Several missions were also sent to more distant chiefdoms with the view to opening up trade with the interior; these were often helpful in settling inter-tribal wars, and led to an extension of British influence over the territory now embraced in the Sierra Leone Protectorate.

From 1822 to 1827 the Governors of Sierra Leone held the title of Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements, and in this capacity were required to visit the Gold Coast and the Gambia. It was within this period, on 21st January, 1824, that Governor Charles MacCarthy was killed in a battle against the Ashantis at Assamako in the Gold Coast. In 1827 the Gold Coast Settlements were alienated and handed over to the African Company of Merchants, but owing to reports as to connivance with the slave trade, were again placed under the Sierra Leone Government in 1843. Further changes were made in 1850 when the British territories in the Gold Coast were made a separate Government for a second time, but in 1866 the Imperial Government constituted once more what was termed the Government of the West African Settlements, comprising Sierra Leone, the Gambia, the Gold Coast, and Lagos, and the Governor of Sierra Leone became the Governor-in-Chief. Eventually a new Charter, dated 24th July, 1874, effected the separation which exists at the present time.

In 1895 an agreement for the demarcation of the northern boundary between the British and French spheres of influence and interests was ratified, and in 1896 the hinterland of Sierra Leone was declared a Protectorate and divided into administrative districts.

The year 1898 was marked by an insurrection in the Protectorate as the result of the imposition of a house tax. The resulting military operations were brought to a successful conclusion early in the following year, and since that date the Protectorate has remained peaceful.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitution.

The Dependency of Sierra Leone consists of two parts, of which one is Colony and the other Protectorate.

The Colony of Sierra Leone is what is generally, if not very accurately, spoken of as a Crown Colony as opposed to a self-governing Colony. Its constitution is to be found in the following Prerogative Instruments:—

(1) Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, dated the 28th day of January, 1924.

(2) Instructions passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet and dated the 28th day of January, 1924, as amended by additional Instructions dated the 19th day of January, 1929.

(3) The Order of the King in Council, entitled the Sierra Leone (Legislative Council) Order in Council, dated the 16th day of January, 1924, as amended by Orders of the King in Council dated respectively the 27th day of June, 1927, the 21st day of December, 1928, and the 29th day of June, 1931.

So far as the Protectorate of Sierra Leone is concerned, the Constitutional Instrument under which it is governed is the Order of the King in Council, entitled the Sierra Leone Protectorate Order in Council, 1924, dated 16th January, 1924, passed by virtue of the powers conferred by the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890.

The Government of both the Colony and Protectorate is administered by a Governor and Commander-in-Chief (who in Sierra Leone is also a Vice-Admiral) appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet.

The Executive Council ordinarily consists of five members, namely, the officers performing for the time being the duties of the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Colonial Treasurer, the Director of Medical Services, and the Commissioner of the Northern Province of the Protectorate.

The Legislative Council consists—

(1) of the Governor as President;

(2) of official members—viz., the members of the Executive Council, the Commissioner of the Southern Province of the Protectorate, the Comptroller of Customs, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Education, the General Manager of the Railway, and the Director of Agriculture;

(3) of nominated unofficial members, of whom there may not be more than seven. Of these nominated members three must be Paramount Chiefs of the Protectorate. Of the remaining four, one represents general European interests in the community; the other European nominated member is appointed after consultation with the Chamber of Commerce. The remaining two nominated members represent African interests;

(4) of three elected members, of whom two are elected by the Urban and one by the Rural Electorate District of the Colony.

Unofficial members hold their seats for five years, and nominated unofficial members are eligible to be re-appointed for a further term not exceeding five years.

There is power vested in the Governor to appoint persons to be extraordinary members upon any special occasion and to make provisional appointments on a vacancy in the seat of a nominated unofficial member.

The Governor presides over the Legislative Council, and questions therein are decided by a majority of votes, the Governor having an original vote as well as a casting vote.

It should be noted that the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone (like those of the Colonies of the Gambia and Kenya) has the power of legislating for the Protectorate as well as for the Colony, and that, in spite of the powers vested in the Governor and Legislative Council, the Letters Patent and the Sierra Leone Order in Council, 1924, expressly reserve to the Crown the power of legislating by Order in Council for the Colony and Protectorate, respectively.

Political Administration.

For administrative purposes Sierra Leone is commonly, though as will be seen later, not accurately, spoken of as being divided into hard-and-fast divisions—namely, Colony and Protectorate.

The Colony is British territory acquired by purchase or concession under treaties entered into from time to time with native Chiefs and tribal authorities, ranging in date from 1807, when the first valid cession of the Peninsula was made, till 1872, when a portion of Koya or Quiah, previously ceded to the Crown, was re-ceded to the Chiefs and people.

COLONY.

For administrative purposes the Colony may in fact be divided into two parts—

(1) Colony administered as such.

(2) Colony administered in every respect as Protectorate.

The part of the Colony administered as such consists virtually of the whole of the Peninsula of Sierra Leone, with the adjacent Tasso and Banana Islands, of the town of Bonthe on Sherbro Island, of the Turtle Islands and York Island. It is composed within three Districts—

- (1) The Police District of Freetown.
- (2) The Headquarters Judicial District.
- (3) The Sherbro Judicial District.

Police District of Freetown.—The Police District of Freetown consists of the north-western portion of the Peninsula, and it is bounded on the south and south-west by the Adonkia Creek, and a line drawn from its source to a point between Allen Town and Grafton and from thence along Hastings Creek to the Rokell River.

This District which is defined by Section 52 (a) of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, 1924, contains, in addition to the city of Freetown, the villages of Kissy, Wilberforce, Wellington, Gloucester, Leicester, Regent, Bathurst, Charlotte, Lumley, and other smaller hamlets. Before 1931 the whole Police District of Freetown was under the general supervision of the Commissioner of Police, and no Political Officer visited the outlying villages. These villages have now been placed under the Commissioner of the Headquarters Judicial District for administrative (though not judicial) purposes.

Freetown Municipality.—The city of Freetown itself is governed by the "City Council of Freetown" pursuant to and in accordance with the Freetown Municipality Ordinance, 1927; but various so-called Tribal Headmen in Freetown have certain administrative powers over the natives of the aboriginal tribes who reside in the capital.

Headquarters Judicial District.—The Headquarters Judicial District, which is defined by Section 52 (b) of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, 1924, consists, roughly speaking, of the remainder of the Sierra Leone peninsula, together with the Banana Islands.

The Headquarters Judicial District is in charge of a District Commissioner with his headquarters at Waterloo, the largest town in the District. Unlike the Commissioner of all the other Districts, the Commissioner of the Headquarters District is subordinate to no Provincial Commissioner and corresponds direct with the Colonial Secretary.

For purposes of house-tax collection and expenditure, the Freetown Police District and the Headquarters District are grouped together under one Advisory Board, constituted on 1st January, 1924.

Sherbro Judicial District.—The Bonthe District consists of Sherbro Island, Turtle Islands, York Island, and the four following chiefdoms on the mainland, viz., Timdale, Bendu, Cha, and Nongoba Bullom, all of which were ceded to the British Crown by various treaties at different times. It is administered by a District Commissioner who is subordinate to the Commissioner of the Southern Province of the Protectorate, and it should be noted, as will be seen later, that whereas the whole of the Police District of Freetown and the Headquarters Judicial District are administered as Colony, by far the greater part of this District is administered as Protectorate.

The town of Bonthe on Sherbro Island and York Island are the constituents of the Port of Sherbro, by far the most important commercial and maritime centre in Sierra Leone after Freetown itself. The population of these two places consists largely of natives of the Colony and of Europeans engaged in commerce. The mode of administering Bonthe, York Island, and the small islands adjacent thereto, which together constitute what is called the Sherbro Judicial District, is on this account precisely similar to that employed in the Headquarters Judicial District of the Colony.

Outside the town of Bonthe, however, the whole of Sherbro Island has a largely aboriginal native population, divided into two chiefdoms—namely, Dema and Sittia—and the four mainland chiefdoms have a similar native population.

Administration on purely Colony lines being impracticable, the whole of the Bonthe District outside the narrow limits of the Sherbro Judicial District is, along with certain other parts of the Colony, administered exactly as is the Protectorate.

Parts of the Colony treated as Protectorate.—Those parts of the Colony which are, for all administrative purposes, treated as Protectorate, consist, in the first place, of a strip of coast line of varying width acquired at different periods before the proclamation of the Protectorate for purposes of Customs control.

Secondly, there is one other area which is in fact Colony administered as Protectorate; this is the Baki Loko territory, acquired by a treaty of 1825.

PROTECTORATE.

The hinterland of Sierra Leone, an area of some 26,000 square miles, was declared a British Protectorate in 1896, and the necessary legislative steps were taken to provide for its administration.

For some years it was, for political purposes, divided into a varying number of Districts and in 1919 it consisted of the following five Districts, viz., Koinadugu, Karene, Railway,

Ronietta and Northern Sherbro. Each District was controlled by a District Commissioner, holding direct communication with the Secretariat in Freetown, aided by a small staff of Assistant District Commissioners, to each of whom he allocated such duties or such geographical spheres of activity as he thought fit. This division of the Protectorate was found, however, to be defective in practice, as it led to much duplication of work, and to the lack of both uniformity and continuity of policy. In order, therefore, to remedy these defects, as well as to bring the political division of the country into closer accord with the racial distribution of its inhabitants, the Protectorate was, in 1920, divided into three provinces, designated respectively the Northern, containing more or less the area formerly known as the Karene and Koinadugu Districts; the Central, taking in the Railway District and part of the Ronietta District; and the Southern, being composed of the Northern Sherbro District and parts of the Ronietta and Railway Districts. Each Province was placed in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. The Provinces were divided into Districts of varying areas, each of which was controlled by a District Commissioner responsible, in his administrative capacity, to the Commissioner of the Province in which his District lay.

By the Protectorate (Administrative Divisions) Order in Council, 1930, which came into force on 1st January, 1931, those three Provinces were reduced to two, namely the Northern and Southern Provinces; and the Order in Council under reference sets out:—

- (a) the respective boundaries of these two Provinces;
- (b) the Districts of which they consist; and
- (c) the native chiefdoms comprised in each of those Districts.

Each district is sub-divided into chiefdoms, owned and administered by their respective tribal authorities, i.e., their Paramount Chiefs in association with the elders or principal men of the respective chiefdoms.

The division of the Protectorate into Provinces and of the Provinces into Districts is arbitrary, and has been dictated by considerations of administrative efficiency, due regard being paid to the necessity for including in one District, where possible, chiefdoms comprising one tribe or section of a tribe. The boundaries of the chiefdoms, however, are fixed by prehistoric tradition and native custom, and although disputes constantly arise as to sections of inter-chiefdom boundaries (indeed the settlement of boundary disputes forms an important part of the work of a Political Officer), the Government does not interfere with chiefdom boundaries unless invited to do so. The chiefdoms vary in size from the considerable area of Tambaka

Yobanji in the Kambia District to the smallness of the Yabai Krim in the Pujehun District, i.e. from approximately 500 square miles to about 20 square miles.

Each chiefdom is entirely separate and independent, and although there is natural cohesion between chiefdoms composed of the same tribe and situated in the same locality, no Paramount Chief can claim pre-eminence over other Paramount Chiefs of the same tribe, either by reason of the area of his chiefdom, the wealth of his people, or the antiquity of his house. At any meeting of the Paramount Chiefs of a District, pride of place would naturally be given to those whom age or, more especially length of reign entitled to that honour at the hands of their brother Chiefs, but the conferring of that mark of respect implies no relationship of superiority and subordination. The several chiefdoms are well defined and have no official inter-relationship whatever, with this exception, that independent and distinterested Paramount Chiefs of the same tribe may be called upon to act as assessors in the settlement of any "palaver" which the Tribal Authority of a chiefdom find themselves unable to settle unaided. They may be invited to act in this capacity either at the instance of a Provincial or District Commissioner, or at that of the Paramount Chief in whose chiefdom the dispute has arisen.

The Tribal Authority of a chiefdom is the sole owner of the land within that chiefdom, and this principle of native law and custom, which is uniform throughout the Protectorate, has been consistently and actively supported by Government.

The Courts of the Paramount Chiefs are dealt with in Chapter XIII.

Functions of Political Officers.—The functions of a Political Officer are three-fold in nature: administrative, judicial, and departmental; but his departmental duties are so wedded to those that are purely administrative that it will be convenient to consider those duties together and separately from those of a judicial nature.

In his administrative capacity the District Commissioner (and, *a fortiori*, the Provincial Commissioner) is the representative of the Colonial Government in that portion of the Protectorate committed to his administrative charge. He is the guide, philosopher, and friend to the Paramount Chiefs, the Tribal Authority and the people. He is at once the support of the recognized native authority, the upholder of its prestige, and the protector of the poor against oppression by their rulers. He is the mouthpiece of the Government, and the interpreter and demonstrator of its policy.

A District Commissioner's departmental duties in reality form a part of his administrative duties. He is responsible for the collection of Government revenue in his District, by (a) house

tax, and (b) the issue of licences for stores, hawkers, vendors of spirit, fire-arms, etc. He is the propagandist officer who is the coadjutor to the technical officers of the Agricultural and Forestry Departments; he supervises sanitation on behalf of the Health Department; he oversees the general conduct of the post offices and agencies; he keeps a wary eye on the Customs frontiers and seaboard; he controls the management of the gaols; he advises the Education Department and assists in its propaganda; he supervises the laying out and construction of second-class roads, and the erection of native buildings required for official purposes; he facilitates the progress through his District of any officers whose duties require them to travel through it; in short, he has ancillary duties to perform on behalf of practically every Government Department in the Colony.

The judicial duties and powers of a Political Officer are fully dealt with under Chapter XIII, to which reference is invited.

III.—POPULATION.

Colony.—The total population of the Colony according to the census of 1931 was 96,422, the racial distributions being as follows:—

<i>Race.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Population.</i>
African native tribes ...	36,914	24,869	61,783	64·08
African non-natives—Sierra Leoneans ...	14,438	18,408	32,846	34·06
Other African non-natives ...	583	346	929	0·96
Asiatics... ..	309	135	444	0·46
Europeans	308	112	420	0·44
Totals	52,552	43,870	96,422	100·00

Protectorate.—The total population of the Protectorate according to the 1931 census was 1,672,058, of which 796,392 were males and 875,666 were females, and consisted of African native tribes, African non-natives, Asiatics and Europeans.

The total European population of the Protectorate was 231, of which 173 were males and 58 were females. Of this total 142 were British, other Europeans numbering 89, in which were included 34 Americans.

The total Asiatic population of the Protectorate was 772—577 males and 195 females. These included 754 Syrians, 16 Arabs, and 2 Indians.

African non-natives in the Protectorate numbered 3,265, 1,765 being males and 1,500 females. These included Sierra Leoneans for the most part and a few West Indians, Liberians, American Negroes, persons classed at the census as Nigerians, Gold Coasters, and Mulattoes. Of the total shown, Sierra Leoneans numbered 3,046.

Nationalities and Tribes.

The following table shows the various nationalities and tribes amongst the African population of the Colony and Protectorate, and the number in each case at the 1931 census.

<i>Nationality or Tribe.</i>	<i>Colony.</i>	<i>Protectorate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Percentage of Total African Population.</i>
Sierra Leoneans ...	32,846	3,046	35,892	2·04
Other African non-natives ...	929	219	1,148	0·07
Temne ...	21,431	472,258	493,689	27·95
Mende ...	10,258	568,788	579,046	32·78
Limba ...	6,957	138,714	145,671	8·24
Loko ...	5,228	57,152	62,380	3·52
Bullom and Sherbro ...	4,634	139,101	143,735	8·15
Susu ...	2,391	43,210	45,601	2·58
Mandingo ...	1,988	14,081	16,069	0·91
Fula ...	1,330	15,523	16,853	0·96
Kono ...	604	68,521	69,125	3·92
Gallinas (or Vai) ...	673	19,865	20,538	1·16
Koranko ...	157	44,203	44,360	2·52
Kissi ...	170	34,810	34,980	1·32
Yalunka ...	73	16,066	16,139	0·92
Krim ...	41	20,639	20,680	1·18
Gola ...	—	8,509	8,509	0·50
Gbande ...	—	1,131	1,131	0·07
Fanti ...	125	—	125	0·01
Joloff ...	181	—	181	0·01
Sarakuli ...	122	—	122	0·01
Kroo ...	4,481	—	4,481	0·29
Bassa ...	512	—	512	0·04
Miscellaneous ...	427	5,219	5,646	0·33
Totals ...	95,558	1,671,055	1,766,613	—

Geographical Distribution.—The main geographical distribution of the African population was as follows:—

	<i>Freetown.</i>	<i>Colony other than Freetown.</i>	<i>Protectorate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Sierra Leoneans ...	20,970	11,876	3,046	35,892
Other African non-natives ...	784	145	219	1,148
Tribes ...	32,919	28,864	1,667,790	1,729,573
Total African population ...				1,766,613

Migration.

During the year 1936, 246 Syrians entered and 142 left the Colony by sea. In all there were 2,474 immigrants and 2,106 emigrants. The total numbers of European immigrants and emigrants other than British subjects were 175 and 161 respectively.

Births and Deaths.

The figures for births and deaths for the Colony for 1936 are as follows:—

(a) Births—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Crude Birth-rate.</i>
1,346	1,191	2,537	24·5

The birth-rate shown is probably too low as registration is not compulsory in every place outside Freetown.

(b) Deaths—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Crude Death-rate.</i>
1,397	1,093	2,490	24·0

The figures for the Protectorate as regards (a) and (b) are unreliable, as registration is not compulsory.

Infantile Mortality.—The following are the figures for infantile mortality for the Colony for 1936:—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 live-births.</i>
389	255	584	230

The rate shown of mortality per 1,000 live births is probably too high owing to the cause stated under (a) above, namely that many births are not recorded.

The last decennial census (1931) showed the population of the Colony to be 96,422.

The estimated population for Freetown at mid-year 1936 is 62,314, that for the Colony exclusive of Freetown 41,064.

The population of the Protectorate was recorded as 1,672,057 in 1931.

Marriages.

The numbers of marriages as shown by the registers for 1936 are:—

	<i>Free- town.</i>	<i>Village areas. (Colony).</i>	<i>Head- quarters District. (Colony).</i>	<i>Bonthe (Colony).</i>	<i>Protec- torate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Christian ...	136	33	13	6	38	226
Civil ...	1	—	—	—	1	2
Mohammedan ...	26	3	—	—	—	29
Totals ...	163	36	13	6	39	257

Only figures for Christian marriages are available for the Protectorate. There is no registration of marriage by “Native Custom.”

IV.—HEALTH.

General Health of the Population.

The figures, with the following exceptions, remain substantially the same.

Yaws and chronic rheumatism show an appreciable increase, due no doubt to the facilities offered for treatment. The latter affection is frequently a sequela of the former. Cases of wounds show a considerable increase, due probably to increased mining activities, as indicated in the last report.

The figures quoted refer only to cases treated at Government institutions and do not include Mission dispensaries and hospitals.

A comparative table for 1935 and 1936 is appended.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>1935.</i>	<i>1936.</i>
Malaria	7,718	7,942
Yaws	6,539	8,202
Acute Rheumatism	—	2
Chronic Rheumatism	7,642	10,671
Hemiplegia	110	137
Conjunctivitis	903	1,075
Affections of the ear	940	1,149
Haemorrhoids	96	102
Lymphadenitis (bubo non-specific)	620	664
Coryza	1,100	1,146
Acute Bronchitis	6,905	7,342
Chronic Bronchitis	5,301	5,542
Asthma	202	245
Caries, pyorrhoea, etc.	1,627	1,916
Gastritis	440	502
Dyspepsia	3,827	4,420
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,434	1,716
Ankylostomiasis	172	405
Hernia	924	1,104
Constipation	8,334	9,701
Acute Nephritis	82	105
Schistosomiasis	65	98
Epididymitis	40	70
Orchitis	237	249
Hydrocele	262	380
Abcess	500	774
Scabies	1,296	1,742
Eczema	230	327
Osteitis	274	355
Arthritis	1,624	1,800
Wounds (by cutting or stabbing instruments)	745	1,205
Fracture	218	238
Other external injuries	5,132	4,639
Asthenia	951	895
Syphilis	566	769
Gonorrhoea	2,526	2,755
Avitaminosis	1,311	909

Mortality.

The figures for Freetown are fairly accurate, as the Medical Department controls the burial of deceased persons, and it may be said that the majority of deaths from other causes come to be notified in the Registrar's office. As has been stated, outside Freetown the figures are indicative only, as, although facilities exist for registration, the figures are dependent on the co-operation of the population.

Figures for the Protectorate are at present too unreliable for quotation, as the registration is largely optional.

Principal Causes of Deaths—1936.

The causes are as stated below, and are as recorded by the Registrar for Freetown. The total amounts to 1,297, and includes Cline Town.

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Freetown (including Cline Town), 1,297.</i>	
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	213	16.4
Malaria	152	11.7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	88	6.8
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	72	5.6
Senility	62	4.5
Valvular disease	43	3.3
Prematurity	36	2.7
Nephritis	36	2.7
Strangulated Hernia	27	2.1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	23	1.7
Convulsions	10	.7
Hemiplegia	9	.7

The number of deaths registered on medical certificate was 382, comprising 29.4 of the deaths registered.

The causes of death for the rest of the Colony are not available, the figures being unreliable owing to the absence of a Medical Officer or Dispenser in the majority of the registration areas.

Provision for Treatment.

Government hospital facilities consist of the Connaught Hospital, Freetown, and the Government Hospital in Bonthe.

A comparison of the number of cases treated at these institutions in 1935 and 1936 is shown below. The figures for the Connaught Hospital remain substantially the same, those for Bonthe Hospital show an appreciable increase both in in-patients and out-patients.

<i>Connaught Hospital :—</i>						<i>1935.</i>	<i>1936.</i>
In-patients ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2,672	2,658
Out-patients—new cases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	18,635	18,193
Subsequent attendances ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	135,094	136,896
Operations ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2,246	2,100
<i>Bonthe Hospital :—</i>							
In-patients ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	371	460
Out-patients—new cases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2,983	3,884
Subsequent attendances ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	13,670	11,589

PROTECTORATE.

Hospitals.—Since the last report a new Protectorate type hospital has been completed at Port Loko. Otherwise the hospitals remain as formerly.

The figures for the Government hospital at Bo show a small decrease in the number of inpatients and an increase in the number of out-patients treated as compared with those for 1935.

The figures for the Government hospital at Makeni show a very marked increase in all three classes of patients.

Protectorate Hospital, Bo, Southern Province :—

	1935.	1936.
In-patients	445	424
Out-patients—new cases	2,962	3,586
Subsequent attendances	18,561	16,328

Protectorate Hospital, Makeni, Northern Province :—

	1935.	1936.
In-patients	241	298
Out-patients—new cases	2,563	4,583
Subsequent attendances	9,951	14,628

Dispensaries.—New Government dispensaries have been inaugurated at Koidu in the Kono district and at Mabonto in the Tonkolili district.

Midwives.—The position remains the same.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The position remains the same.

	<i>Connaught Hospital and Maternity Centre, Oxford Street.</i>		<i>Princess Christian Mission Hospital.</i>	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Ante-natal attendances	5,981	5,510	981	763
Labour cases admitted	554	607	42	23
Health visits	11,985	10,189	3,551	5,001
Infant Welfare clinic attendances ...	12,056	13,120	4,414	3,407

Sanitation.

The occurrence of smallpox shows a very marked decrease in the Colony during the period under consideration.

In the Protectorate a marked diminution is also apparent, though, in the Northern Province, Karene, and, in the Southern Province, Kailahun and Kenema, there was an increase in the incidence of the disease, but not of a significant nature.

The table below gives the figures for the Colony and Protectorate during 1936.

<i>Area.</i>	<i>Number of cases discovered.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>	<i>Number of Vaccinations.</i>
<i>Colony Districts :—</i>			
Freetown	29	8	8,448
Headquarters Judicial ...	26	1	1,501
Sherbro	4	—	3,114
<i>Protectorate Districts :—</i>			
<i>Northern Province—</i>			
Port Loko	5	—	3,033
Karene	57	13	806
Bombali	39	—	1,736
Tonkolili	6	—	—
Koinadugu... ..	—	—	191
<i>Southern Province—</i>			
Kailahun	57	6	1,951
Kenema	15	1	1,766
Bo	14	—	3,657
Moyamba	103	16	2,115
Pujehun	9	1	1,764
Bonthe	27	5	—
	—	—	—
	391	51	30,082
	—	—	—

Of the twenty-nine cases shown above against Freetown, twelve were imported.

Sanitation in general maintains a steady progress.

V.—HOUSING.

Freetown and Colony.

Colony.—The majority of the wage-earning population of Freetown and the larger towns of the Colony occupy timber-framed houses with concrete or stone and mortar dwarf walls roofed with corrugated iron sheets or palm-tile thatch. The floors are either of concrete or of native timber boarding, and window openings are fitted with glazed casements or boarded hinged shutters according to the means of the occupant.

The artisan class, as a rule, own their houses, whereas the unskilled labouring class usually rent one or two rooms in a compound for themselves and their families.

There are no Building Societies in Freetown, but a scheme inaugurated by the City Council enables houseowners and prospective houseowners to borrow money for the purpose of improving existing buildings and erecting new ones. Under this arrangement approximately thirty new houses have been erected at a cost of about £11,958.

In addition, a building scheme has been introduced by a firm of timber merchants in Freetown. Under this scheme, prospective owners of the type of house property costing from £250 to £600 can erect buildings under the supervision of the firm both expeditiously and inexpensively, payment being made by an initial small deposit followed by monthly instalments.

In connexion with this scheme, Government has laid out and has leased to the firm a small model residential area which enables intending houseowners to obtain (by assignment from the firm) leases of building plots at a moderate ground rent and with an option to purchase the freehold within 20 years.

Seven houses have now been completed on this area.

Protectorate.

In the Protectorate the great majority of houses of the wage-earning classes are built of wattle and mud daub with palm-tile or grass thatch roofs—and this form of construction is frequently also adopted by Europeans both official and unofficial. In the Protectorate, as a rule, the occupier is the owner, though in the larger towns there is always a floating population which rents the accommodation required.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Minerals.

Minerals occurring in economic quantities in Sierra Leone are gold, diamonds, iron, platinum, and probably chromite and ilmenite. The first four were mined during the year and an interest has also been taken in chromite.

Gold.—It is likely that the production of alluvial gold reached its peak during 1936. The output for the year reached 40,722 ounces of an estimated value of £266,217 which is an advance on the previous year's record of 32,947 ounces.

Gold has as yet only been produced from alluvial sources, but prospecting for lode has been active and at any rate at Pujehun the prospects are more than promising.

Attention has recently turned to the possibility of dredging in the bigger rivers, and an amount of work has been done in this connection.

Applications for mining ground have increased slightly during the year.

No new areas have been discovered but mining continues actively in the districts previously worked—namely Tonkolili (lately parts of Koinadugu and Bombali) and Karene in the Northern Province, and Bo, Kailahun and Kono in the Southern Province.

Diamonds.—This industry continues in a very satisfactory state. The output for the year is 616,200 carats which considerably exceeds that for 1935 which was 295,483 carats.

The diamonds are of gem quality and the reserves are considerable. As a result the future prospects are indeed bright.

Diamonds are being mined in the Kono District.

Iron Ore.—There are now indications of great prosperity for the iron and steel trade so that it is not surprising to find an increased output. The output is 566,595 tons which shows a big increase over last year when the production was 433,540 tons. The company concerned are erecting a concentration plant at Marampa for dealing with powder ore.

A survey for the proposed extension of the railway from Marampa to the Tonkolili area was completed some time ago, but the building has not yet commenced and it may be some time before the enormous Tonkolili deposits are exploited.

Platinum.—The United Africa Company, Limited, having worked out their areas, have now ceased mining. They were easily the largest producers, so the output has fallen considerably. A few individuals are engaged in a small way—a slight impetus having been given to them owing to the increased price. The output only amounts to 482 ounces against 750 ounces for last year. It is being mined in the Colony.

Chromite.—A special exclusive prospecting licence has been granted in respect of this mineral and tests are being carried out. It is too early yet to give any idea of the prospects. The chromite deposit is in the Kenema District.

Labour.—Labour is generally plentiful and the number employed has increased. There is an occasional shortage during the planting season and a certain number have moved over to French Guinea from the Northern Province as gold has recently been discovered near the Sierra Leone—French Guinea boundary.

Agricultural Produce.

FOOD CROPS.

Rice.—The year 1936 was not a good year for rice. During the early months some 204 tons of rice (from the 1935 crop) were exported to Bathurst, Gambia, but bad “burns,” due to early rains, limited the area cultivated and the upland crop was short in many places. Owing to the prolonged rains, the dry land crop was on the whole rather over a month late. This lateness of the crop caused some shortness during August to September. The wet land rice was at least up to the normal and probably a shade better. There has been a switch over of a large number of men from farming to mining (these are the

only two industries in the Colony), and the number of men employed in mining reached 14,000 in 1936, thereby creating an internal market for some 3,000 to 4,000 tons of rice, a market which did not exist previously to the last two or three years. The export of rice which had been confidently expected, and which was gradually growing up, can no longer be anticipated until the internal markets, recently created by the rapid expansion of mining activities, are fully supplied.

Considerable progress was made in the study and distribution of good types of rice in the Scarcies area and some 2,000 bushels of a variety known as G.E.B.24 were harvested in January and distributed during May for cultivation. By December it was obvious that 15,000 to 20,000 bushels of this new variety would reach the market in 1937.

A mill was erected and started operating in March. Very satisfactory results were obtained and the mill-cleaned rice sold at a premium over hand-cleaned rice. A test milling of G.E.B.24 showed that this rice gave a white product which would probably be suitable for export.

Cassava.—Work on the eradication of “mosaic” disease has been continued but progress is necessarily slow.

EXPORT CROPS.

Palm Kernels.—84,578 tons of kernels valued at £810,238 were exported in 1936. This is a record for the Colony, and the increase in value of the kernels exported was at once reflected in the increased customs returns. The increase in the value of kernels undoubtedly had a stimulating effect on production.

Ginger.—1,641 tons of ginger valued at £58,672 was exported. The improvement in price was very welcome and the crop was average in amount.

Piassava.—The export of piassava (3,558 tons) was the second highest yet reached, and there was a small improvement in price. The quality of both Sherbro and Sulima fibre was maintained, and Sherbro now produces the highest priced piassava on the West Coast.

Kola.—Some small improvement was shown in the kola trade. 2,301 tons valued at £41,539 were exported but the price still remains disappointingly low.

Cocoa.—There has been a gradual increase in this industry and in 1936 a record export of 301 tons was reached. This industry is again receiving the attention of the agricultural department.

Coffee.—A small amount of coffee is grown for local consumption and for export. So far only negligible quantities have been exported, but the native cultivator is interested in this crop and shows signs of increasing production.

Livestock.

There are as yet no statistics concerning the livestock of this country. Cattle-farming is carried out on a small scale in the Northern Province. A large proportion of the cattle (of which something like 5,000-6,000 are slaughtered annually in the Colony and Protectorate) is imported from French Guinea. Sheep and goats are bred on a moderate scale throughout the country, and pigs to a small extent. There are a few horses, the majority of which also come from French territory. The value of the export in hides amounted to £1,821 in 1936.

VII.—COMMERCE.**Imports.**

The total value of imports into the Colony during the year 1936 amounted to £1,346,715 as compared with £1,214,315 in 1935, being an increase of £132,400.

The following table shows the value of imports by classes during the years 1935 and 1936:—

	1935.	1936.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco	209,551	231,864	22,313	—
Class II.—Raw materials, etc.	72,909	67,526	—	5,383
Class III.—Articles mainly manufactured	816,438	965,374	148,936	—
Class IV.—Animals not for food, etc.	27,658	33,626	5,968	—
Class V.—Bullion, specie, etc....	87,759	48,325	—	39,434
Totals	1,214,315	1,346,715	177,217	44,817
Nett increase ...	£132,400.			

Compared with 1935 there were increases in the value of each of the three categories which constitute Class I—"Food" by £11,562, "Drink" by £6,353, and "Tobacco" (mainly unmanufactured) by £4,398.

Commercial and Government coal was mainly responsible for the decrease in Class II, the value being £8,386 less than the 1935 imports.

With few exceptions all items under Class III recorded an increase, particularly cotton piecegoods (£29,781).

The following table shows the commercial imports for home consumption of cotton piecegoods, including velveteen, for the years 1932 to 1936:—

Year.	Quantity. Sq. yds.	Value. £	Duty obtained. £.
1932	11,169,367	262,959	48,651
1933	6,129,891	124,702	24,047
1934	5,638,488	107,740	26,524
1935	14,207,762	297,455	72,593
1936	14,408,232	328,107	76,320

The following table shows the value and percentage of the imports from the different countries during the years 1935 and 1936:—

	<i>Value.</i> 1935. £	<i>Percentage.</i> 1935.	<i>Value.</i> 1936. £	<i>Percentage.</i> 1936.
United Kingdom	852,124	70·17	942,746	70·00
British West African Posses- sions	34,837	2·87	4,882	0·36
British Possessions (other) ...	133,605	11·02	187,327	13·91
France	13,159	1·08	12,829	0·95
Germany	31,749	2·61	35,498	2·64
Netherlands	8,448	0·70	9,553	0·71
United States of America ...	74,293	6·11	66,833	4·96
Japan	9,258	0·76	19,754	1·47
Foreign West African Posses- sions	5,034	0·41	3,996	0·30
Other European Countries ...	41,016	3·38	46,592	3·46
Other Countries	10,792	0·89	16,705	1·24
Totals	£1,214,315	100·00	£1,346,715	100·00

Exports.

The total value of exports from the Colony during the year 1936 amounted to £2,376,965 (domestic exports being £2,224,918 and non-domestic £152,047).

The following table shows the value of exports by classes during the years 1935 and 1936:—

	1935. £	1936. £	<i>Increase.</i> £	<i>Decrease.</i> £
Class I—				
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	46,982	69,601	22,619	—
Class II—				
Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured ...	1,283,271	1,900,088	616,817	—
Class III—				
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	14,554	17,617	3,063	—
Class IV—				
Animals not for food ...	629	500	—	129
Class V—				
Bullion, Specie and Currency Notes	238,398	389,159	150,761	—
Totals	£1,583,834	2,376,965	793,260	129

The following table is a comparative statement of the principal exports during the years 1935 and 1936:—

				1935.		1936.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
					£		£
Benniseed ...	...	...	tons	370	3,122	409	4,991
Cocoa, raw ...	...	...	„	164	2,043	301	5,542
Diamonds ...	...	...	value	—	402,067	—	725,272
Ginger ...	...	...	cwt.	30,121	36,918	32,831	58,673
Hides (cattle) tanned	...	...	lb.	13,905	770	21,516	1,197
Kola nuts ...	...	...	cwt.	37,183	39,415	46,017	41,539
Palm Kernels ...	...	...	tons	78,019	583,645	84,578	810,238
Palm Oil ...	...	...	„	2,892	35,814	1,223	16,313
Peppers ...	...	...	lb.	40,385	665	64,812	1,354
Piassava ...	...	...	tons	3,438	30,998	3,558	32,777
Platinum ...	...	...	oz.	556	3,871	375	3,184
Rice ...	...	...	tons	1,024	6,183	208	1,418
Gold ...	...	...	oz.	33,216	225,423	38,804	256,139
Gum Copal ...	...	...	tons	—	—	—	—
Iron Ore ...	...	...	value	—	178,848	—	262,143

The following table shows the value and percentage of the exports to the different countries during the years 1935 and 1936:—

		Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
Country.		1935.	1935.	1936.	1936.
		£		£	
United Kingdom ...	...	1,078,923	68·12	1,469,276	61·81
British West African Possessions		48,822	3·08	175,847	7·40
British Possessions (other) ...	...	5,861	0·37	9,493	·40
France ...	...	1,628	0·10	6,966	·29
Germany ...	...	179,074	11·31	353,109	14·86
Netherlands ...	...	124,589	7·87	264,646	11·14
United States of America ...	...	39,110	2·46	23,748	1·00
Japan ...	...	—	—	—	—
Foreign West African Possessions	...	9,122	0·58	10,750	·45
Other European Countries ...	...	90,721	5·73	58,575	2·46
Other Countries ...	...	5,984	0·38	4,555	·19
Totals ...	...	£1,583,834	100·00	£2,376,965	100·00

Palm Kernels.—Eighty-four thousand five hundred and seventy-eight tons, or 6,559 tons in excess of 1935, were shipped. The Home market price advanced from £12 10s. in January to £17 15s. in December and averaged throughout the year £11 16s. 8d. as compared with £9 15s. 4d. in 1935.

Germany purchased 33,476 tons, an increase on the figure of 1935 of 14,781 tons. Shipments to the United Kingdom amounted to 25,657 tons, or a decrease of 9,932 tons. Exports to Netherlands rose from 14,711 to 21,507 tons.

The following table shows the quantity and value of palm kernels exported during the last five years:—

Year.					Quantity. Tons.	Value. £
1932	...	...	...	...	77,162	687,477
1933	...	...	...	...	64,083	472,824
1934	...	...	...	...	68,655	360,780
1935	...	...	...	...	78,019	583,645
1936	...	...	...	...	84,578	810,238

State of Trade.

The following comparative table summarizes the state of trade in the Colony during the past five years:—

Year.	Total Imports (less specie and currency notes).	Re-exports (less specie and currency notes).	Net Imports.	Domestic Exports.	Excess of net Imports over Domestic Exports.	Excess of Domestic Exports over net Imports.	Customs Duty on Imports and Exports.	Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1932	1,219,558	20,749	1,198,839	878,424	320,415	—	452,880	3,286,299
1933	817,108	18,306	798,802	753,930	44,872	—	371,686	3,509,799
1934	776,334	15,376	760,958	832,805	—	71,847	313,528	4,269,310
1935	1,126,556	14,043	1,112,513	1,556,816	—	444,303	441,966	4,794,868
1936	1,298,390	19,027	1,279,363	2,224,918	—	945,555	491,694	4,979,189

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

Artisans (Public Works).—In Freetown during 1936, Public Works artisans were paid from 2s. to 5s. 9d. a day for journeymen and from 1s. to 2s. 6d. for improvers. In a few exceptional cases certain journeymen were paid at the rate of 8s. 8d. a day.

In the Protectorate rates of pay varied from 6d. to 1s. for improvers and 1s. to 4s. 6d. for journeymen.

Labourers (Public Works).—In Freetown the rate of pay of ordinary unskilled labour was from 10d. to 1s. 3d. a day. In certain cases unskilled labour employed on special work in which they had acquired some proficiency were paid slightly higher rates, the maximum being 1s. 9d.

In the Protectorate the rates of pay for labourers varied from 6d. to 10d., while the rate of pay for headmen or gangers varied from 8d. to 2s. 6d. per diem.

The wages of artisans outside Government employ are practically the same as those paid by the Government departments.

Cost of Living.

Rice, the only staple food, was obtainable at from 6s. to 10s. a bushel.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

Education is still governed by the Ordinance of 1929 and the Schedule of Rules for the Colony (1929) and the Protectorate (1930).

In the Colony the Protestant infant and primary schools are conducted by school committees as the result of the amalgamation of denominational schools. Of these there are 42. There are also two Government, three Roman Catholic and three Mohammedan schools. The managers of these schools, i.e., the owners of the school buildings or their representatives, are theoretically responsible for the upkeep of the buildings, but Government pays the salaries of teachers and provides equipment. All school fees are paid into Government revenue. There are at present 50 schools of this type in the Colony, with 7,362 pupils on their rolls and an average attendance of 5,481.

There is one Government secondary school for boys in the Colony and three assisted schools, which receive capitation and equipment grants; grants are also paid to qualified teachers. There are also four assisted girls secondary schools. In these schools there are on the rolls:—

Boys.—70 primary, 128 preparatory and 221 secondary pupils.

Girls.—351 primary, 94 preparatory and 162 secondary pupils.

There are also two assisted schools in the Colony which provide vocational training—The Sir Alfred Jones Trades School (wood-working) for boys, and the A.M.E. Girls Industrial School (Domestic Science). Courses in carpentry and printing form part of the curriculum at the Albert Academy, one of the assisted boys' secondary schools.

Apart from assisted schools there are two unassisted boys' secondary schools, a preparatory girls' school, and a number of unassisted primary schools.

Domestic science forms an important part of the curriculum in the education of girls. Special examinations are held annually by independent examiners and certificates and diplomas awarded to successful students. Training for nurses is given both at the Connaught (Government) Hospital and the Princess Christian (Mission) Hospital.

There is a scheme whereby a number of scholarships are awarded to enable boys and girls from primary schools to attend approved secondary schools.

Higher education in Arts and Theology is provided at the Fourah Bay College, a missionary institution affiliated to Durham University.

Government finances schemes for the training of male teachers in connection with Fourah Bay College and for the training of female teachers at the Women Teachers' Training College, Wilberforce.

An Agricultural Institute at Mabang, managed by the Trustees of the S. B. Thomas Bequest, provides training in agriculture for a limited number of youths from the Colony.

In the Protectorate there are three Government schools; there are also 83 assisted mission schools, which are eligible for capitation, building and equipment grants; teachers' salaries being paid by the missions and supplemented in the case of qualified teachers only by grants from Government. These schools are attended by 7,175 pupils, consisting of 5,338 boys and 1,837 girls.

There is no school in the Protectorate covering the complete secondary course, but the Bo Government School and two or three mission schools have classes of secondary grade.

The Union College at Bunumbu trains youths, who combine the roles of teachers and evangelists.

There is also an assisted (Catholic) Industrial School at Mobe, which gives instruction in the trades of boat-building and wood and metal working.

A notable development in Freetown is the quality of the singing in schools. A special music master teaches singing on correct lines, and very good results have been achieved. An annual singing competition is held, at which the greatest keenness is displayed.

Instruction in physical training is supervised by an officer specifically appointed for the purpose. His activities at present are limited to the schools and training colleges in Freetown and the vicinity.

Welfare Institutions.

The methods of caring for the poor and sick and the burial of deceased destitute persons remained the same during 1936 as in the previous year. Friendly Societies abound.

Mental Home.

There is a mental home at Kissy, about five miles from Freetown.

X.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

Colony.—The principal means of communication between the smaller towns and villages of the Colony is by non-motorable roads, but there is a motor road from Freetown to Waterloo

(20 miles) which connects several villages on the route with the capital of the Colony. Freetown is connected to Lumley Village ($6\frac{1}{4}$ miles) and to Hill Station (5 miles) by bitumen-surfaced laterite gravel roads, and a laterite gravel road three miles in length from Hill Station affords facilities for the use of motor transport to the population in and around the village of Regent. There are 50 miles of roads and streets in the capital of the Colony of which about $31\frac{1}{2}$ miles are motorable. The principal streets are surface treated with bitumen and are provided with concrete surface-water drains and channels.

Protectorate.—The total mileage of maintained roads in the Protectorate is $807\frac{3}{4}$. The roads are surfaced with laterite and are for the greater part 16 feet wide.

The majority of the bridges are built with concrete abutments and piers, and steel joists carrying a timber deck, but there still remains a number of timber beam and trestle bridges which are being reconstructed to a standard type, with a 9 feet wide deck, as their condition requires and funds permit. In addition to the above Government-maintained roads, there are chiefs' roads, constructed and maintained by the tribal authorities concerned, which are not usually open to heavy motor vehicles and are sometimes not available for motor traffic in the wet season.

Ferries are used in cases where the width of rivers has rendered the construction of bridges financially impracticable. There are fifteen such ferries in the Protectorate, the pontoons being constructed of timber with one exception which has a steel pontoon. The pontoons are connected by steel wire rope bridles to a wheeled traveller moving on a steel cable-way which is slung between towers on the banks. The pontoon is impelled across the river partly by the action of the current and partly by the boat crew hauling on a light steel hand-line also slung between the banks.

Railway.

The total length of open line at the end of 1936 was 311 miles, with a gauge of 2 ft. 6 ins.

Capital expenditure on the railway to the 31st December, 1936, was £1,428,244.

The total revenue of the railway was £200,243, which shows an increase of £20,238 over the figure for the previous year. The revenue includes £1,071 for contributions to the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Fund.

The expenditure other than capital for the year was £187,601, which shows an increase of £1,046 as compared with 1935. This total includes £57,693 for loan charges, pensions and gratuities, cost of services rendered by other Government departments, and expenses in connexion with the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Working expenditure amounted to £129,908 and gross receipts £200,243.

Passenger journeys in the year were 540,990, an increase of 90,283 over the previous year, and the tonnage carried was 76,887 against 71,628 in 1935.

	1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Receipts per train mile	9 6·11	11 7·13	10 10·71	8 5·39	8 10·93	8 7·88	8 11·03	9 7·69	10 3·10
Working expenses per train mile ...	*5 1·09	10 4·34	11 4·17	8 9·48	8 3·86	8 1·98	7 8·82	6 10·82	6 7·90
Passengers carried ...	438,388	367,602	258,834	252,472	408,149	373,161	377,123	449,513	540,990
Tonnage carried ...	62,084	75,473	70,949	61,859	66,024	58,866	59,938	71,628	76,887

* Exclusive of pensions, gratuities, etc.

The rolling stock in use during the year consisted of 39 locomotives, 70 coaching vehicles and 304 goods vehicles.

Motor Bus Service.

The motor bus service is under the direction of the General Manager of the Railway. This service runs on two routes, viz., route 1 to Hill Station European Settlement through Wilberforce, a distance of five miles, and route 2 to Lumley Beach, where there is an excellent golf links, $6\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Freetown, on the western sea-board of the peninsula of Sierra Leone. The fleet in 1936 consisted of five passenger vehicles and two lorries.

The total number of passengers carried was 262,624 and the gross receipts amounted to £3,164.

The staff employed was:—

European ...	...	...	...	1
Africans ...	...	...	...	19
				—
Total ...	...	...	...	20

Postal Business.

There was considerable increase in postal business during 1936. Postal business was conducted from 14 post offices and 53 postal agencies, money-order business from 23, and postal-order business from 55 offices.

The total revenue collected was £24,989 as against £22,331 in the previous year. Of this amount, £16,661 was derived from direct postal revenue, £6,639 from Customs duty on parcels, and £1,689 from the sale of stamps for Inland Revenue purposes.

As regards correspondence, the estimated number of articles of all kinds, including 89,540 registered articles, dealt with during the year was 2,209,400, as compared with 2,003,800 in 1935. Money-order transactions increased from 3,728 (value £20,922) in 1935 to 3,843 (value £22,103) in 1936.

The total number of postal-orders issued during the year was 57,726 valued at £35,448, and the number of postal-orders paid was 46,836 valued at £29,974, as compared with the previous year, viz., orders issued 50,381 valued at £30,748, orders paid 41,523 valued at £26,110.

The parcel post transactions showed an increase, 36,516 parcels being handled as against 32,180 the previous year.

In the cash-on-delivery parcels service (with Great Britain only) 10,526 parcels were received (value £19,104) as compared with 8,512 (value £14,452) in 1935.

Telegraph System.

The internal telegraph system is maintained by the railway. The main system runs from Freetown to Pendembu (227½ miles from Freetown) with transmitting stations at Bauya and Bo; this system is connected up by branches with most of the district headquarters in the Protectorate. The total mileage is 1,099¼, plus the railway traffic control line of 455 miles.

Telephones.

The only service is that in Freetown and district, maintained by the Railway Department. The total mileage is 394¼.

Broadcast Relay Service.

The Broadcast Service was inaugurated in May, 1934, and is owned and controlled by Government.

It is a relay service which operates on the rediffusion principle. The equipment, consisting of rectifying apparatus, two short-wave battery operated receivers and five power amplifiers, together with studio and gramophone equipment, is of the latest design. The power amplifiers are capable of giving a combined undistorted output of 300 watts.

Directional reflector aerials are used and are erected 500 ft. above sea level.

The station relays as a standard programme the whole of Transmissions II and IV in the Empire programme from Daventry on wavelengths of 13, 16, 19, 25 and 31 metres. All transmissions from Daventry are receivable at good signal strength in normal circumstances.

The number of subscribers up to date is over 720.

Cables and Wireless.

Cable and Wireless Limited maintain a cable office and a low-power wireless station in Freetown; the latter is used mainly for communicating with shipping.

Increase in the knowledge of wireless telegraphy and recent improvement in the manufacture of wireless installations of moderate cost have led to considerable numbers of applications on the part of private individuals for licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1924, and the holders of such licences have little difficulty in picking up any station in Europe and American broadcasting on suitable short-wavelengths.

Shipping.

There was an increase of eight in the number of steam and motor vessels entering in the Colony during the year and in tonnage 88,389. Of a total of 2,485,750 tons entered, 66·58 per cent. was British, 8·91 German, 3·13 Italian, 5·73 French, 6·25 American and 5·72 Netherlands.

The following shipping lines call regularly at Freetown on their way to or from other West African ports:—

SIERRA LEONE, 1936

<i>Line.</i>	<i>Destination.</i>	<i>Passenger or Cargo.</i>	<i>Frequency of Calls.</i>	<i>Mail contract.</i>	<i>Other feature of the contract, and other remarks.</i>
Elder Dempster Lines, Limited, Liverpool.	Liverpool ...	Passenger	26 (1 each 2 weeks) plus supplementary end of summer.	Liverpool and West African Colonies	Colony pays a proportion of the subsidy for the conveyance of mails between Liverpool and West African Colonies.
"	" ...	Cargo	18 (1 each 2 weeks).		Cargo vessels also have passenger accommodation usually for 12.
"	London ...	"	13 (one each 4 weeks).		
"	Continent ...	"	18 (1 each 3 weeks).		Extra services to United Kingdom, Continent and United States of America put in as inducement offered.
"	New York ...	"	13 (one each 4 weeks).		Passenger services also accepted cargo at this port.
"	Canada—South Africa.	"	12 (1 monthly)		
"	Coast Ports ...	Passenger	26 (1 each 2 weeks).		
"	" ...	Cargo	52 (1 each week) every 4 weeks.		
"	Hull ...	"	Twice monthly.		
United Africa Company Steamers	Liverpool and West African ports.	2nd Class cargo boats			
Navigazione Libera Triestina (Italian Line).	Genoa ...	2nd Class cargo boats.	Once a month.		
Sierra Leone Development Co....	United Kingdom	Iron Ore	About once every 6 weeks.		
American West African Line, Inc., New York.	New York ...	Passenger and cargo	18 round voyages calling outward and Homeward 12 months.	Mail contract with U.S. Government outwards.	

STEAMSHIP SERVICES, 1936.—Continued.

<i>Line.</i>	<i>Destination.</i>	<i>Passenger or Cargo.</i>	<i>Frequency of Calls.</i>	<i>Mail contract.</i>	<i>Other feature of the contract, and other remarks.</i>
American West African Line, Inc., New York— <i>cont.</i>	U.S. Gulf ports ...	Passenger and cargo	5 round voy- ages calling outward and Homeward 12 months.	Mail contract with U.S. Government outwards.	
Holland West-Afrika Lijn, Am- sterdam	Le Havre, Am- sterdam and Hamburg.	Passenger	1 monthly (outward). 1 monthly (Homeward).	Mail contract with Netherlands Government.	
"	Rotterdam, Am- sterdam and Hamburg.	Cargo	1 monthly (outward). 1 monthly (Homeward).		
"	Coast ports up to Spanish Guinea.	Cargo	1 monthly (outward). 1 monthly (Homeward).		
Woermann Linie	Southampton, Boulogne s/mer, Hamburg and Continental ports.	Passenger	2 monthly.	Mail contract with Spanish Government.	
"	Hamburg and Con- tinental ports.	Cargo	1 monthly.	"	
"	Coast ports ...	Passenger	1 monthly.	"	
"	Coast ports ...	Cargo	1 monthly.	"	
"	Coast ports ...	Passenger	2 monthly	"	
Cie. Generale de Navigation a vapeur (Cie. Fabre), and Cie. Marseilles de Navigation a Vapeur (Cie. Fraissinet) com- bined services.	Marseilles	and cargo.	(1 Homeward and 1 out- ward).	Mail contract with the Sierra Leone Government.	
"	Marseilles	Passenger and cargo.	1 every 3 weeks (average).		
Societe Navale de l'ouest Char- geurs Reunis.	Coast ports ...	Cargo (com- bined ser-	1 monthly (average).		

The lower reaches of all the rivers of Sierra Leone are navigable for boats and canoes, and a considerable traffic is carried on by these means. The most commonly used craft are open sailing boats with a carrying capacity of about four tons. During recent years motor launches have come into use and this form of water transport appears to be growing increasingly popular with the natives.

There are four ports of entry in the Colony, viz., Freetown, Bonthe, Sulima, and Mano Salija.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

Banking facilities are afforded by the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas). The former is established at Freetown (local head office) with a branch at Bonthe (Sherbro) and agencies at the more important trading centres. Barclays Bank is established at Freetown, and has no branches or agencies.

Both banks afford their customers savings bank facilities. In addition there is the Government (Post Office) Savings Bank, controlled from Freetown, with nineteen agencies throughout the Colony and Protectorate. The balance standing to the credit of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank on 31st December, 1936, was £74,229.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks. The absence of realizable security and direct ownership properly registered precludes the possibility of the introduction of the former. The co-operative movement has not yet been introduced.

Currency.

The coins current in Sierra Leone are:—

United Kingdom gold, silver, and bronze coins;

West African silver coins, value 2s., 1s., 6d., 3d.;

West African alloy coins value of the same denominations; and

West African nickel-bronze coins of the value of 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The United Kingdom coins have been superseded by the West African coins. The West African silver coins authorized by the Sierra Leone and Gambia Coinage Order, 1913, and introduced in that year are being withdrawn from circulation. Other West African coins of mixed metals of the same denominations and of the same weights, and authorised by His Majesty's Order in Council of February, 1920, were introduced in July, 1920, to replace the silver coins.

Gold and silver coins are legal tender up to any amount and copper and nickel-bronze coins up to one shilling.

West African currency notes of the values £5, 20s., 10s., 2s., and 1s., were introduced in 1916 under the Currency Note Ordinance of that year. Currency notes of the value of 20s. and 10s. are now in circulation, the £5, 2s., and 1s. having been withdrawn. A new issue of the West African currency notes of 20s. and 10s. denomination was put into circulation on 1st July, 1928; the old issue notes are being withdrawn.

Weights and Measures.

There has been no addition to the standards and no new legislation relating to the inspection of weights and measures in the Colony.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During 1936 the whole length of Samba Water, a stream running from Tower Hill to Joaque bridge was canalized and the upper section of Wellington Street drained on either side and the road made up to a uniform width and camber. The finished work is functioning satisfactorily.

New Passenger Jetty.—The erection of the new passenger jetty was completed in September and was used for the first time upon the return from leave of His Excellency Sir Henry Moore on 10th October. It is a great convenience to passengers embarking and disembarking.

New Hospital, Port Loko.—A complete hospital unit was constructed at Port Loko out of Protectorate Mining Benefits Trust Fund and provides an out-patients' block with dispensary and operating theatre, a ward block for twelve patients, a patients' waiting shelter combined with garage for Medical Officer's car, a kitchen and a hospital store, a living room, sanitary accommodation for the hospital orderly, a mortuary, and dispenser's quarters complete with usual offices. All the above buildings were constructed of concrete blocks and present a workmanlike finish. Two rain-water tanks each of 3,200 gallons capacity were erected adjacent to the hospital.

Rice Mill.—The rice mill was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore, on 2nd May, 1937.

Electric Light and Power.

An electric light and power scheme put into service in April, 1928, is in operation by Government in Freetown. High tension alternating current is generated by Diesel engines and distributed at British standard voltage and periodicity. Charges to consumers are 1s. per unit for lighting, with a favourable decreasing rate of charge to users of domestic appliances, and 4d. per unit

for power decreasing to 2d. according to consumption. In certain cases special tariffs have been approved for other than private consumers, each having a favourable decreasing rate of charge in a manner similar to that for users of domestic appliances. Such special tariffs are based upon the various different average consumptions of current of each consumer.

There is a flat-rate charge for consumers with only three or four lights ranging from 10s. to 19s. per month. The distribution scheme covers a wide area and building sites and power are available for industrial development.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Courts of Justice.

The West African Court of Appeal.—This Court has an appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal matters, in respect of certain decisions of the Supreme Court of the Colony, and of the Circuit Court of the Protectorate. The Judges of the Court are the Judges of the Supreme Courts of the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gambia Colony, and the Judges of the High Court of the Protectorate of Nigeria.

The Court sits periodically at Freetown for the hearing of appeals arising in Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

Courts of the Colony.—The following Courts have jurisdiction in the Colony:—

(i) *The Supreme Court (Ordinance No. 39 of 1932).*

(a) The Court consists of a Chief Justice and Puisne Judge, and also of the Chief Justice and every Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, the Chief Justice and every Judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, and the Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony of the Gambia.

(b) In its ordinary jurisdiction the Court has all the powers of the High Court of Justice in England, except the Admiralty jurisdiction.

(c) The Court has also a summary jurisdiction in civil causes similar to that of the County Courts in England.

(d) The Court is also a Court of Appeal from any decision, civil or criminal of a Magistrate or District Commissioner.

(ii) *Magistrates' Courts (Cap. 118).*

There are certain Judicial Districts in each of which is established a Magistrate's Court for the summary trial of criminal causes and with power to commit persons for trial before the Supreme Court. These Courts have also jurisdiction in various quasi-criminal causes, which is conferred upon them by sundry Ordinances. Each Court is presided over by a Magistrate or District Commissioner or by two Justices of the Peace.

(iii) *Courts of Requests* (Cap. 43).

These are courts for the trial of civil causes in which the amount involved does not exceed a sum fixed by the Ordinance. There is one Court for each Judicial District. Each Court is presided over by a Magistrate or District Commissioner who in this capacity is styled “ Judge of the Court of Requests,” or by two Commissioners.

Courts of the Protectorate.—The Courts of Law of the Protectorate are as follows:—

(i) *The Circuit Court* (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).

(a) This Court is constituted by the Chief Justice or Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony, each of whom, when sitting in this Court, is styled “ the Judge of the Circuit Court.”

(b) With very few exceptions the Court has the same criminal and civil jurisdiction in the Protectorate as the Supreme Court has in the Colony. Divorce and matrimonial causes are, however, specially withdrawn from its jurisdiction.

(c) The Court also hears appeals from decisions of District Commissioners in both criminal and civil causes.

(ii) *Courts of District Commissioners* (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).

(a) In each district there is a Court constituted by the District Commissioner and known as “ the Court of the District Commissioner ” or “ The District Court.”

A Provincial Commissioner, who is in charge of a group of districts known as a Province, has the same jurisdiction as a District Commissioner in each of those districts. (Ordinance No. 32 of 1933.)

An Assistant District Commissioner has the same jurisdiction as a District Commissioner in the district in which he is stationed, if appointed by the District Commissioner to exercise it. (Ordinance No. 32 of 1933.)

(b) The criminal jurisdiction of these Courts is practically the same as that of the Magistrates’ Courts in the Colony. They can commit persons for trial before the Circuit Court, or, in very rare cases, before the Supreme Court of the Colony. They also possess a civil jurisdiction in most cases up to £50.

(iii) *Courts of Native Chiefs* (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).

The Courts are composed of native chiefs and have a limited civil and criminal jurisdiction in cases arising exclusively between natives of the Protectorate, other than

persons employed in the Government service. They are subject in all respects to supervision of the District Commissioner who can amend, vary or set aside any of their decisions or sentences.

(iv) *Combined Courts (Ordinance No. 40 of 1932).*

In certain chiefdoms where there is a considerable number of non-natives settled or residing, the Paramount Chief and a non-native appointed by the District Commissioner, subject to confirmation by the Governor, sit as " Joint Judges " to decide petty civil cases arising between non-natives and natives. The orders of this Court may be enforced by the District Commissioner who can review its decision in all cases.

Criminal Cases tried in the Police Magistrate's Court, Freetown, in 1936.

<i>Offences.</i>	<i>Cases reported.</i>	<i>Persons arrested.</i>	<i>Persons convicted.</i>	<i>Persons discharged.</i>	<i>Committed for trial.</i>
Assault and Battery ...	98	107	84	19	—
Harbour Offences ...	31	41	39	2	—
Stowaways ...	15	15	11	4	—
Customs Offences ...	35	40	35	5	—
Housebreaking ...	9	3	3	—	—
Burglary ...	5	2	—	—	2
Larceny ...	364	406	332	44	9
Larceny from Ship ...	14	17	11	2	—
Public Health Offences	128	141	133	7	—
Shopbreaking ...	12	9	8	1	—
Larceny from a Person	74	81	63	6	—
Breach of Immigration Restriction Law ...	3	15	15	—	—
Selling Palm Wine without Licence ...	4	4	4	—	—
Disorderly conduct ...	77	157	141	8	—
Fighting ...	22	45	41	4	—
Drunk ...	14	14	14	—	—
Wounding ...	2	2	—	—	—
Totals ...	907	1,099	934	102	11

Juveniles.

Larceny ...	42	42	42	—	—
Assault and Battery ...	4	4	4	—	—
Throwing Stones ...	1	1	1	—	—
Committing Nuisance...	2	2	2	—	—
Unlawful Possession ...	3	3	3	—	—
Acting as a Guide ...	2	2	2	—	—
Totals ...	54	54	54	—	—

Return of Criminal Cases tried in the Circuit Court during the year 1936.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Number of persons prosecuted.</i>	<i>Number of persons imprisoned.</i>	<i>Number of persons fined or otherwise punished.</i>	<i>Number of persons condemned.</i>	<i>Number of persons discharged.</i>
Bombali ...	1	—	—	—	1
Karene ...	4	4	—	—	—
Kenema ...	2	1	—	—	1
Kailahun ...	4	3	—	—	1
Kono ...	4	2	—	1	1
Koinadugu ...	3	—	—	—	2
					One died before trial.
Bo ...	4	4	—	—	—
Moyamba ...	10	4	—	—	5
					One died before trial.
Port Loko ...	4	2	—	1	1
Tonkolili ...	5	2	—	—	3
Pujehun ...	7	5	—	—	2
Bonthe ...	1	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	49	28	—	2	17

Police.

During the year 1936, the strength of the Police Force was increased by one 3rd Class constable.

Prisons.

There are now 12 prisons administered by the Prisons Department, which have been established as follows:—

Colony.—Freetown, convict and local; Bonthe, local.

Protectorate.—Northern Province, local prisons; Port Loko, Kabala, Makeni, Bathenu, Tonkolili,

Southern Province, local prisons; Kenema, Moyamba, Pujehun, Masanki, Sefadu.

The number of persons committed to the central prison at Freetown during the years 1935 and 1936 was as follows:—

	1935.	1936.
Males ...	933	904
Females ...	12	4
Juvenile adults ...	4	18
Juvenile offenders ...	14	Nil

The total daily average number in custody was:—

1935.	1936.
243	233·727

The number of persons committed to the local prisons of the Colony and Protectorate during the years 1935 and 1936 was:—

	1935.	1936.
Males ...	1,050	1,285
Females ...	5	4

The daily average number in custody was 179 as against 143 in 1935.

Health.—The general health of the prisoners was good. The total number of deaths at all prisons was three, compared with five in 1935.

Industrial.—Short-sentence prisoners were employed in the kitchen garden, and on general labouring, quarrying stone, sanitary work and planting fruit trees on Government land. Long-sentence prisoners were engaged in the usual industries which consist of rice-milling, tailoring, tarpaulin and mattress making, bread-making and carpentry.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The more important Ordinances enacted during 1936 were:—

The Juvenile Offenders Ordinance, 1936,

The Diamond Industry Protection Ordinance, 1936,

The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936,

The Counterfeit Currency Ordinance, 1936,

The African Labourers (Employment at Sea) Ordinance, 1936,

The Notaries Public Ordinance, 1936,

The Public Officers Protection Ordinance, 1936,

The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance, 1936.

The Juvenile Offenders Ordinance, 1936, provides for the first time special measures for the trial and punishment of juvenile offenders in the Colony. The provisions of the Ordinance require the separate sittings of Summary Courts as Juvenile Courts for the general trial of children under 12 years of age, and with their consent of young persons under 16 years of age. The admission of the general public to such Courts is severely restricted as well as the publication of reports of cases in the public Press. Restrictions are also placed on the punishment of children and young persons and no child can be sentenced to a term of imprisonment. Generally speaking the Ordinance introduced all the principal provisions of the English law on this subject as were thought applicable to the needs of the Colony and which were capable of satisfactory administration at the present time.

The Diamond Industry Protection Ordinance, 1936, has been enacted to give protection to the diamond industry. The mining of these highly precious stones attracts to the neighbourhood of the mines persons seeking to take advantage of the employees of the mining company in order to receive stones unlawfully obtained. Such traffic is not easy to detect and this measure is designed to strengthen the hands of the local administration in dealing with this situation in the immediate vicinity of the mines.

The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936, repeals and replaces the Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance, 1924 (Cap. 159), and gives effect to the recommendations of a Committee which had been appointed to examine the Savings Bank Systems in the various Crown Colonies and formulate a scheme for uniform legislation on this subject. The chief recommendations which have been adopted in the measure may be summarized (*inter alia*) as follows: The Ordinance contains a clear statement of ultimate Government liability. It provides that Savings Bank accounts shall be kept distinct from the accounts of any Government Department. Also expenses incurred on Savings Bank business shall be charged against Savings Bank funds. Again the non-liability of Government has been expressly declared. The rule-making power has been considerably extended and many provisions of the repealed Ordinance which were omitted from the new enactment have been more suitably included in the new Savings Bank Rules.

The Counterfeit Currency Ordinance, 1936, gives effect in Sierra Leone to an International Convention signed at Geneva in 1929 for the suppression of counterfeiting currency, by applying certain Imperial Statutes in force in England relating to these matters. It also amends the law relating to the counterfeiting of coins and to forgery. The Imperial Counterfeit Medal Act of 1883 has also been applied. A further important provision has been inserted dealing with enquiries which are made from time to time through the medium of the post by persons who are desirous of obtaining coining tools or counterfeit coin and currency.

The African Labourers (Employment at Sea) Ordinance, 1936, is designed to regulate the engagement of and payment of wages to African labourers employed or engaged locally for service on sea-going vessels while such ships are operating on the West Coast of Africa. This class of labourer had not been provided for under the Employers and Employed Ordinance, 1934. For some years prior to the enactment of this measure, Government had under consideration the methods adopted in the engagement of Kroos and other tribesmen who desired employment as stevedores on board ships. It appeared that the headmen who were engaged by the shipping companies for the purpose of collecting gangs of labourers demanded a contribution from each applicant for employment, and consequently no African labourer could expect or hope to obtain employment unless he offered a substantial consideration out of his future earnings. The headmen were not employees of the shipping companies, but were independent contractors and therefore did not come within the purview of the Prevention of Corruption Ordinance, 1924. This form of extortion must have undoubtedly caused considerable hardship in the past, and it is hoped that this measure which has been designed to suppress any "pecuniary

inducements " of this particular nature will have the desired effect. Persons seeking employment are also prohibited in future from offering any reward for obtaining such employment. The Ordinance also directs that all wages must be paid personally to a labourer without any deductions except such as are authorized by the terms of his contract or by law. The wages of a labourer must also be paid in money and not in kind. The Ordinance also prohibits any traffic in the sale of " tickets " which are issued to persons who are accepted for employment on board any ocean-going vessels.

The Notaries Public Ordinance, 1936, provides for the appointment of legal practitioners of a certain standing in the profession to be Notaries Public within the Colony and Protectorate and is based on similar legislation in force in West Africa.

The Public Officers' Protection Ordinance, 1936, was enacted in order to substitute a uniform, improved and simpler mode of procedure for the provisions which appear in some enactments as to the privileges of persons sued in respect of acts done by them in real or supposed conformity with the laws of this country. The measure will generally also secure all persons and bodies administering statutory or other public duties from stale or speculative actions and afford them an adequate opportunity of tendering amends before action and thus avoiding costs.

The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance, 1936, simplifies and cheapens the procedure with regard to the local protection of designs by according to proprietors of designs registered in the United Kingdom under the Patents and Designs Acts, 1907 to 1932, the same rights and privileges in this country as they enjoy in the United Kingdom. It is considered that the automatic protection afforded under this new measure will more adequately safeguard designs against infringement by unscrupulous persons who copy designs.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial year closed on the 31st December, 1936, showing the financial position of the Colony to be as follows:—

	£	£
Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 1st January, 1936		194,878
Revenue, 1936	969,668	
Expenditure, 1936	879,370	
	<hr/>	
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure		90,298
		<hr/>
Balance of Assets over Liabilities on 31st December, 1936		285,176

The Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the past five years were:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1932	872,469	831,921
1933	655,529	691,686
1934	598,839	603,208
1935	678,978	585,574
1936	969,668	879,370*

* Includes £187,020 transferred to Reserve Funds.

The funded debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1936, was £1,718,259 against which the accumulated sinking funds, for its amortization, amounted to £474,601.

Assets.

The assets of the Colony as disclosed in the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1936, amounted to £644,701 made up as follows:—

	£
Reserve and surplus Funds invested...	309,512
Other investments	109,147
Stores	15,335
Loans	26,214
Advances	39,427
Cash	145,066

Taxation.

The main heads of taxation from which revenue was derived in 1936 were:—

	£
Customs	490,787
Port, Harbour and Lighthouse dues ...	16,170
Licences and Internal Revenue ...	40,709
Taxes	194,073

Customs Tariff Imports.

Preferential duties were introduced in Sierra Leone in May, 1932, and quotas on imports of textiles from foreign countries were imposed as from the 16th June, 1934. There are no treaty obligations. The tariff is mainly specific. All edible provisions and articles ordinarily used for human consumption, not specifically mentioned in the tariff, however, pay an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. (Preferential) and 25 per cent. (General). On all goods, wares and merchandise not included in any item in the tariff an *ad valorem* duty is levied of 20 per cent. (Preferential) and 40 per cent. (General).

Some of the more important duties levied on imported goods are: cotton piece-goods—bleached, 1d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 2d. per sq. yd. (General); coloured and dyed, 1½d. per

sq. yd. (Preferential) and 3d. per sq. yd. (General); grey $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per sq. yd. (General) and printed, $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per sq. yd. (General). Cotton yarn, 3d. per lb. (Preferential) and 6d. per lb. (General); fish, canned or otherwise preserved, 6s. 3d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 12s. 6d. per 100 lb. (General); fish—dried, salted, smoked or pickled, not in tins, jars or bottles, 2s. 6d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 5s. per 100 lb. (General); flour, free (Preferential) and 1s. per 100 lb. (General); lard 8s. 4d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 16s. 8d. per 100 lb. (General); matches, 1s. 6d. per gross of boxes (Preferential) and 3s. 6d. per gross of boxes (General); meat, canned or bottled, 10s. 5d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and £1 0s. 10d. per 100 lb. (General); milk, condensed or otherwise preserved, free (Preferential) and 4s. per 36 lb. (General); kerosene, $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 9d. per imperial gallon (General); motor spirit, $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 11d. per imperial gallon (General); edible oil, 2d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 8d. per imperial gallon (General); onions, free (Preferential) and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. (General); potatoes, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. (Preferential) and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. (General); table salt, 1s. 8d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and 3s. 4d. per 100 lb. (General); coarse salt, 1s. per cwt. (Preferential) and 2s. 9d. per cwt. (General); artificial silk piece-goods, 2d. per sq. yd. (Preferential) and 6d. per sq. yd. (General); silk piece-goods, 1s. 6d. per lb. (Preferential) and 4s. 6d. per lb. (General); toilet soap, 12s. 6d. per 100 lb. (Preferential) and £1 5s. per 100 lb. (General); soap, other kinds, 7s. 6d. per cwt. (Preferential) and 15s. per cwt. (General).

On spirits (50 per cent. volume of alcohol) duty is levied at the rate of £1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and £1 16s. per imperial gallon (General), and on wines (still), 3s. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 6s. per imperial gallon (General). Beer and ale, stout and porter pay at 1s. 6d. per imperial gallon (Preferential) and 3s. per imperial gallon (General).

Unmanufactured tobacco is subject to a duty of 1s. 2d. per lb. (Preferential) and 1s. 6d. per lb. (General); manufactured tobacco pays from 6s. 6d. per lb. (Preferential) to 8s. 3d. per lb. (General) and cigarettes from 1s. 6d. per 100 (Preferential) to 2s. 6d. per 100 (General). The duty leviable on lumber is 15s. per 1,000 superficial feet (Preferential) and £1 10s. per 1,000 superficial feet (General).

Export Duties.

The following exports are subject to duty:—palm kernels, £1 a ton; kola nuts, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a lb.

Royalties.

The following royalties are levied on minerals exported from the Colony: on chromite, 1s. 3d. per ton; on ilmenite, 1s. per ton; on platinum, 5 per cent. on the value; on crude gold, 9 per cent. on the ascertained value of the combined gold and silver content of the crude metal as shown by the refiner's certificate.

Drawbacks.

The usual provision is made for payment of drawback, 95 per cent. of duties paid on imported goods being allowed.

Wines, spirits, petroleum products, tobacco, arms and ammunition, gunpowder, West African products (excluding Liberian coffee) and manufactures, potatoes, onions and rice are excluded from this benefit.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Under a Stamp Duty Ordinance, stamp duties are levied on cheques, bills of exchange, deeds, legal documents, probates, etc. The aggregate collections in 1936 amounted to £1,006.

There are no Excise duties, but revenue is derived from Licences, as follows:—

Auctioneers, hawkers, spirits, store, wine and beer, petroleum, motor vehicles, dog and game licences, etc.

Pawnbroker, bicycle, showkeepers and hotel licences, etc., are levied by the Freetown City Council.

House Tax.

A house tax of five shillings per house is levied throughout the Protectorate and yields approximately £80,000 annually. The District Commissioners control the collections in the various chiefdoms, but the native chiefs are responsible and receive a remuneration of 5 per cent. on such collections. The assessment is made biennially or triennially by Assistant District Commissioners as occasion arises, aided by the Paramount Chiefs. House Tax in Freetown and Sherbro Judicial District is assessed on the value of the property and varies in different years. House Tax in the remainder of Colony villages is at a fixed rate of five shillings per house.

Poll Tax.

Under the Non-native Poll Tax Ordinance every non-native is required to pay an annual tax of £4.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.**Surveys.**

Topographical Survey.—The topographical survey of the Protectorate on the scale of 1/62,500 was commenced in 1925 and completed in 1930. It comprises 109 sheets; of these, only 45 have been printed and published. All the remaining sheets are now available locally in sunprint form. In connection with mining surveys a certain amount of revision has been done on several sheets and it is hoped that funds and staff will shortly become available to revise the whole area. A gazetteer of the names of all towns and villages in the Protectorate is in course of preparation.

Cadastral Survey.—One hundred and forty-four mining surveys comprising fifteen exclusive prospecting licences, two mining leases, and 127 mining rights were executed during the year. Seven miles of Crown mangrove swamp boundaries were traversed and beacons. Five additional sheets of the cadastral survey of the Colony were taken up. The town survey of Bo was printed and issued in three sheets on the 1/2,500 scale.

The drawing office prepared 563 plans and tracings and 880 sunprints. In addition 100 sunprints of topographical sheets were supplied to Government departments and to prospectors.

Lands Branch.—All the usual business in connection with grants, acquisitions, valuations, leases, preparation of tenancy agreements, collection of rents, beaconing of Crown Lands, etc., has been carried out.

General.—The value of maps supplied to Government departments during the year amounted to £97 14s. 3d. Sale of maps to the public realized £81 10s. 6d. Revenue from mining surveys amounted to £3,017 1s.

Geological Survey.—At the kind invitation of the Government of French West Africa the officer-in-charge of the geological survey spent five interesting and instructive weeks at the beginning of the year visiting the neighbouring colonies of Guinea, Sudan, and Senegal, where he studied the main features of geological interest with special reference to the correlation of the rocks of these countries with those of Sierra Leone. As he was required to act as Chief Inspector of Mines soon after his return to Sierra Leone until his departure on leave at the beginning of July, only a limited amount of geological field work was possible during 1936. Advice was given to the Freetown City Council regarding the augmentation of the water supply of Freetown, and numerous rocks and mineral specimens were identified and reported upon for the mining community.

Imperial Institute—Public Exhibition Galleries.

Following the redecoration of the Exhibition Galleries in the latter part of 1935, the re-installation of the exhibits in the Sierra Leone Court was completed in the early part of this year.

New exhibits include specimens of piassava fibre (Sherbro and Sulima grades) together with dressed and dyed fibre and an example of a piassava broom.

Photographs of cotton cloth weaving in Sierra Leone have been prepared and are on show.

Dioramas of the iron-mining and diamond-mining industries are under construction, and are nearing completion. The cases for these have been constructed of cedar and West African mahogany. The charts and graphs, showing the volume of trade, have been revised in accordance with the latest available figures.

Lectures to school parties have been continued, and films of West Africa have been shown in the cinema to schools and the general public.

The distribution of samples of products to applicants under the school specimen scheme has been continued.

During the year, the Institute examined a sample of tobacco representing a type of leaf grown in considerable quantities in the northern chiefdoms of Sierra Leone, submitted by the Department of Agriculture in order to ascertain its value as a source of nicotine for insecticidal purposes. On examination it was found to contain 3.12 per cent of nicotine (expressed on the moisture-free material), a figure comparing favourably with that (0.5 to 3.0 per cent.) normally contained in waste tobacco commonly employed by insecticide manufacturers in the United Kingdom. In view however of the large quantities of such waste which are available, it did not appear likely that it would be remunerative to produce the tobacco for shipment.

The Imperial Institute also carried out investigations and reported on samples of piassava, cashew nuts, chillies, and gorlie seed, and has furnished enquirers with information in respect of the various minerals.

A special exhibition of Empire commercial fibres was held in the Pavilion of the Institute during March and April. Exhibits included samples of grades of Sierra Leone piassava fibre and products manufactured therefrom, also an exhibit of Sierra Leone raffia fibre. The piassava diorama was transferred from the Court to the Pavilion for the period of the exhibition. An exhibition was held at Charing Cross Underground Station, London, from 9th to 29th October, under the title "Peeps at the Colonial Empire."

The West African stand was arranged by the Imperial Institute staff, the exhibits comprising groundnuts, oil palm products, cotton, cocoa, piassava and raffia fibres, being arranged on the new "story" lines showing stages from raw material to the finished manufactured product.

APPENDIX.

List of certain Publications obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1, and from the Government Printer, George Street, Freetown.

						<i>Revised Rates for Gazettes and Legislation.</i>		
						£	s.	d.
<i>Royal Gazette</i> , inclusive of all Supplements ; Annual Subscription, inland						1	5	0
<i>Royal Gazette</i> , inclusive of all Supplements ; Annual Subscription, Overseas						1	10	0
						<i>For current or previous year.</i>		
						s.	d.	
<i>Royal Gazette</i> , single copies, inclusive of " <i>Special Supplements</i> " only						6		1 0
Trade Supplement (postage 1d. extra)						3		6
Legislative Supplements, or separate copies of Ordinances, Rules, &c., not exceeding—								
8 pages						4		8
9-16 „						6		1 0
17-32 „						9		1 6
33-48 „						1 3		2 6
49-64 „						1 6		3 0
65-96 „						2 0		4 0
Exceeding 96 pages						2 6		5 0

Including postage.

The foregoing rates will apply to all Supplements or Legislation already in stock, regardless of any price printed thereon.

							<i>Price.</i>			<i>Postage.</i>	
							£	s.	d.	s.	d.
Blue Book, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928 each							12	6		1	4
Blue Book, 1929, 1930, 1933, 1934, 1935 each							12	6		1	2
Legislative Council Debates—No. 1 of any year							1	6			2½
Legislative Council Debates—Subsequent numbers, each								6			2

	<i>Price.</i>			<i>Postage.</i>	
	£	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sierra Leone Studies (abridged edition of Nos. 1, 2, 3)	1	0			2
Sierra Leone Studies, Nos. 7-18 and 20, each ...	1	0			2
Handbook of the Temne Language	5	0			3½
Handbook of the Sherbro Language	10	6			3
Handbook on the Tse-tse Fly (Austen)	5	0			6
Bibliography of Sierra Leone, by Sir H. C. Luke, Kt.	8	6			4
Beri-beri and the Freetown Prison	10	6			6
The Birds of Tropical West Africa, Vols. 1 & 4, by D. A. Bannerman	1	2	6	1	0
Report on Potential Rice Lands, by R. R. Glanville	2	6			1½
Census Report, 1931	5	0			6
Mineral Ordinance Revised, 1935	7	6			6
Tide Table, 1937		4			1
Sierra Leone Country Cloths, by Dr. M. C. F. Easmon	1	0			2
Introduction to Geography of Sierra Leone ...	1	4			2
History of Royal West African Frontier Force, by Lieut. R. P. M. Davis	7	6			2½
A Limba-English and English-Limba Dictionary, by Mary Lane Clarke	5	0			4
Crook's History of the Colony of Sierra Leone, Western Africa	1	6			4
Specimen of Languages, by N. W. Thomas ...	4	0			3
Report of the Native Administration to the Protec- torate of Sierra Leone, by Mr. J. S. Fenton, O.B.E.	1	6			1
Customs Trade Report, 1935	5	0			5

SIERRA LEONE SURVEY



NOTE.—The Headquarters of the Northern Province are at Freetown.

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A comprehensive Survey, including Memoranda on the Economic Situation of the individual Dependencies and on the Products of the Colonial Empire

Survey for 1935

[Colonial No. 126] £1 5s. (£1 5s. 8d.)

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

Fourth Edition, 1937

I. Africa

[Colonial No. 127-1] 3s. od. (3s. 3d.)

II. Eastern, Mediterranean, and Pacific

[Colonial No. 127-2] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.)

III. West Indies

[Colonial No. 127-3] 4s. od. (4s. 4d.)

EMPIRE SURVEY

Report of the Proceedings of the Conference of Empire Survey Officers, 1935

The Conference was mainly occupied with questions related to trigonometrical and topographical surveying. It also discussed the various aspects of air survey work with particular reference to aerial photography and the production of charts and maps.

[Colonial No. III] £1. (£1 os. 6d.)

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

A Survey

[Colonial No. 124] 6d. (7d.)

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Colonial Development Advisory Committee for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937

[Cmd. 5537] 6d. (7d.)

PALESTINE

REPORT of Royal Commission

[Cmd. 5479] 6s. 6d. (6s. 8d.)

Minutes of Evidence (with Index)

[Colonial No. 134] £1 15s. (£1 15s. 6d.)

Memoranda prepared by the Government of Palestine

[Colonial No. 133] 9s. (9s. 6d.)

Summary of Report (with Extracts and Map) [Colonial No. 135] 9d. (10d.)

STATEMENT OF POLICY by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom

[Cmd. 5513] 1d. (1½d.)

THE HADHRAMAUT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Report by W. H. Ingrams, O.B.E. (with map)

3s. (3s. 3d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies

[Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

HIGHER EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA

Report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies

[Colonial No. 142] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)

BROADCASTING SERVICES IN THE COLONIES

Interim Report of a Committee

[Colonial No. 139] 6d. (7d.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS INTO THE COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A Summary of Legislation as at the end of December, 1936

[Colonial No. 141] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

Obtainable from

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

LONDON, W.C.2: Adastral House, Kingsway

EDINBURGH 2: 120, George Street

MANCHESTER 1: 26, York Street

CARDIFF: 1, St. Andrew's Crescent

BELFAST: 80, Chichester Street

or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BRITISH GUIANA
BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS
PROTECTORATE
BRUNEI, STATE OF
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA)
CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
JOHORE
KEDAH
KELANTAN

KENYA COLONY &
PROTECTORATE
LEEWARD ISLANDS
MAURITIUS
NEW HEBRIDES
NIGERIA
NORTHERN RHODESIA
NYASALAND
PERLIS
ST. HELENA
ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALILAND
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
TONGAN ISLANDS
PROTECTORATE
TRENGGANU
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE

BASUTOLAND
BECHUANALAND
PROTECTORATE

SWAZILAND

MANDATED TERRITORIES

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY

CAMEROONS under British Mandate
TOGOLAND under British Mandate

*Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable
from the Sale Offices of*

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.